To Whom It May Concern,

Please let it be known that this veteran educator believes that:

1) Common Core was not crafted by educators,
2) Common Core was not crafted with input from child development experts,
3) Common Core has no basis for it's necessity in data or educational fact,
4) Common Core has never been tested or piloted,
5) Common Core pushes standards that are not needed, but concocted by special interests for their own profit,
6) Common Core relies on the same high stakes testing regimes as the failed No Child Left Behind,
7) The 'value added method' of teacher evaluation that comes with Common Core is inappropriate and widely refuted by experts in the field of psychometrics,
8) The standardized tests (SBAC AND PARCC) that Common Core is built upon are robbing teachers or invaluable planning, collaborating, and instructional time as we attempt to ramp up for 'field tests' that are being piloted on our students in real time, rather that in small groups outside of instructional time,
9) SEED, the Connecticut teacher evaluation model, drains huge amounts of time that teachers desperately need to prepare for SBAC's numerous Training, Practice, and, eventually, Field Tests, not to mention the time lost to planning, collaborating, and instructing,
10) The true root of educational inequality in Connecticut and the USA lies not in disparate standards, BUT FROM THE INSIDIOUS EFFECTS OF POVERTY AND ALL OF THE STRESSORS IT BRINGS TO POOR STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

Thank you for hearing my thoughts,
Jonathan Woodman
CT Educator of 15 Years